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IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Aisa

For: Control System for a Household Appliance

National Stage of International Application No.: PCT/EP98/00162

International Filing Date: January 13, 1998

Attorney Docket No.: MERL0060US

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July 9, 1999

Box PCT Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington D.C. 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please enter the following amendment before computing the filing fee in the above identified patent application.

Please add a page of Abstract reading as follows:

--Abstract of the Disclosure

A control system for a household appliance having an electronic control unit, and a selection device located on a control panel for selecting predetermined basic functions of the apparatus. First information is encoded within the electronic control unit for allowing the appliance to perform the basic functions as a function of the selection made through the selection device. Second information is encoded within the electronic control unit for allowing the appliance to perform functions in addition to

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